

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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BRIAN MUNOZ,

Plaintiff,

v.

BENSON, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:24-CV-00048-ART-CLB
**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
 OF U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE¹**

On November 12, 2024, Plaintiff changed his address following his release from Nevada Department of Corrections custody. (ECF No. 12.) On March 13, 2025, the Court entered an order setting a case management conference. (ECF No. 25.) The Court mailed this Order to Plaintiff's address. On March 19, 2025, the document was returned as undeliverable. (ECF No. 27.)²

Pursuant to Local Rule IA 3-1, a party must immediately file with the Court written notification of any change of mailing address. Thus, the Court directed Plaintiff to file a notice of change of address by April 18, 2025. (ECF No. 28.) Plaintiff was cautioned that his failure to comply with this Court's order would result in dismissal of this action. To date, Plaintiff has failed to comply with this Court's order.

District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and "[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal" of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules.

¹ This Report and Recommendation is made to the Honorable Anne R. Traum, United States District Judge. The action was referred to the undersigned Magistrate Judge pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and LR IB 1-4.

² Several other documents were also returned as undeliverable. (See ECF Nos. 29, 31.)

1 See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance
2 with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for
3 failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856
4 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring
5 pro se plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833
6 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for failure to comply with court order); *Henderson*
7 *v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (dismissal for lack of prosecution and
8 failure to comply with local rules).

9 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey
10 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the Court must consider several factors:
11 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to
12 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring
13 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.
14 *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 130;
15 *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

16 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in
17 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket,
18 weigh in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to defendants, also weighs
19 in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of
20 unreasonable delay in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See
21 *Anderson v. Air West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor—public policy
22 favoring disposition of cases on their merits—is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor
23 of dismissal discussed herein. Finally, the Court's warning to a party that his failure to
24 obey the Court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"
25 requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d
26 at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to update his address explicitly stated that:
27 "Failure to comply with this rule may result in dismissal of this action." (ECF No. 28.) Thus,
28 Plaintiff had adequate warning that dismissal would result from his noncompliance with

1 the Court's order to update his address. Thus, Plaintiff has failed to comply with this
2 Court's order to update his address, and his case should be dismissed accordingly.

3 For all of these reasons, it is recommended that this action be dismissed without
4 prejudice based on Plaintiff's failure to update his address.

5 The parties are advised:

6 1. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(c) and Rule IB 3-2 of the Local Rules of
7 Practice, the parties may file specific written objections to this Report and
8 Recommendation within fourteen days of receipt. These objections should be entitled
9 "Objections to Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation" and should be
10 accompanied by points and authorities for consideration by the District Court.

11 2. This Report and Recommendation is not an appealable order and any
12 notice of appeal pursuant to Fed. R. App. P. 4(a)(1) should not be filed until entry of the
13 District Court's judgment.

14 **I. RECOMMENDATION**

15 **IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED** that this action be **DISMISSED** without
16 prejudice based on Plaintiff's failure to update his address in compliance with the Court's
17 order; and,

18 **IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED** that the Clerk of Court **ENTER JUDGMENT**
19 accordingly.

20 **DATED:** April 25, 2025

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22 **UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**
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